

SA 588. Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 589. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. KYL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 590. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 582. Mr. TALENT proposed an amendment to amendment SA 567 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; as followed:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FIRST RESPONDER VEHICLE SAFETY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, shall—

(1) develop and implement a comprehensive program to promote compliance with State and local laws intended to increase the safe and efficient operation of first responder vehicles;

(2) compile a list of best practices by State and local governments to promote compliance with the laws described in paragraph (1);

(3) analyze State and local laws intended to increase the safe and efficient operation of first responder vehicles; and

(4) develop model legislation to increase the safe and efficient operation of first responder vehicles.

(b) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary may enter into partnerships with qualified organizations to carry out this section.

(c) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall use a variety of public outreach strategies to carry out this section, including public service announcements, publication of informational materials, and posting information on the Internet.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006 to carry out the provisions of this section.

SA 583. Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 178(c) of title 23, United States Code (as added by section 1824(a)), strike “and transit”.

SA 584. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title I, add the following:

SEC. ____ DESIGNATION OF HIGH PRIORITY CORRIDOR IN NEW YORK, VERMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND MAINE.

Section 1105(c) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2031; 112 Stat. 191; 115 Stat. 871) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(46) The East-West Corridor, from Watertown, New York, continuing northeast

through the States of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine, and terminating in Calais, Maine.”.

SA 585. Mr. SPECTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 1808, add the following:

(c) DESIGNATION OF ADDITION TO THE APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—Section 14501(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) DESIGNATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—There is designated as an addition to the Appalachian development highway system the portion of United States Route 219 that—

SA 586. Mr. KOHL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Section 105(b)(1)(B) of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1104(a)) is amended by inserting after “that decennial census,” in the second place it appears the following: “an indexed State motor fuel excise tax rate for gasoline that is greater than 150 percent of the Federal motor fuel excise tax rate for gasoline under section 4081 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,”.

SA 587. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1701(b) and insert the following:

(b) CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.—Section 149(b) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

“(5) if the program or project improves traffic flow, including projects to improve signalization, construct high occupancy vehicle lanes, improve intersections, improve transportation systems management and operations, and implement, operate, and maintain intelligent transportation system strategies and such other projects that are eligible for assistance under this section on the day before the date of enactment of this paragraph.”.

SA 588. Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 551, strike lines 14 and 15 and insert the following:

“(B) coal combustion fly ash;

“(C) blast furnace slag aggregate; and

“(D) any other waste material or byprod-

SA 589. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. KYL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 405, line 13, strike “\$1,607,547” and insert “\$1,800,000”.

SA 590. Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amend-

ment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3, Reserved; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 216, after the matter preceding line 1, insert the following:

SEC. 1524. SOUTHWEST PASSAGE INITIATIVE FOR REGIONAL AND INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION.

Section 1105(c) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2032) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(46) The corridor extending from the point on the border between the United States and Mexico at El Paso, Texas, where United States Route 54 begins, along United States Route 54 through the States of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas, and ending in Wichita, Kansas, to be known as the ‘Southwest Passage Initiative for Regional and Interstate Transportation Corridor’ or ‘SPIRIT Corridor’.”.

NOTICES OF HEARING/MEETINGS

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on Wednesday, May 11, at 10 a.m. in Room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 895, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a rural water supply program in the Reclamation States to provide a clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents.

For further information please contact Nate Gentry at 202-224-2179 or David Marks at 202-228-6195.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to conduct a hearing during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing will be to consider the nomination of Thomas Dorr to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development and to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 10 a.m. for a hearing titled "Chemical Attack on America: How Vulnerable Are We?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing on Regulation of Indian Gaming.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on "Executive Nominations" on Wednesday, April 27, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. in Dirksen Senate Office Building Room 226.

Witness List:

Panel I: Senators.

Panel II: Paul D. Clement, to be Solicitor General of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., to markup S. 271, a bill which reforms the regulatory and reporting structure of organizations registered under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 27, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet Wednesday, April 27, 2005 from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. in Dirksen G50 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF ROBERT J. PORTMAN TO BE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 74.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be United States Trade Representative.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand we cannot get a time agreement on this nomination due to an objection on the other side. Therefore, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 74, the nomination of Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Bill Frist, Chuck Grassley, Sam Brownback, Kay Bailey Hutchison, David Vitter, Orrin Hatch, Elizabeth Dole, Lisa Murkowski, Bob Bennett, John Cornyn, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, C.S. Bond, Michael B. Enzi, Mike DeWine, John Ensign, Ted Stevens.

NOMINATION OF STEPHEN L. JOHNSON TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 61.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen L. Johnson, of Maryland, to be administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, again I am told there is objection from the Democratic side to a time agreement on the nomination. Therefore, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Executive Calendar No. 61, the nomination of Stephen L. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Bill Frist, J.M. Inhofe, Sam Brownback, Kay Bailey Hutchison, David Vitter, Orrin Hatch, Elizabeth Dole, Lisa Murkowski, Bob Bennett, John Cornyn,

Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, C.S. Bond, Michael B. Enzi, Mike DeWine, John Ensign, Ted Stevens.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the live quorums with respect to both cloture votes be waived and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

VERMONT DAIRY FESTIVAL

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order for the Agriculture Committee to be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 118, and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 118) recognizing June 2 through June 5, 2005, as the "Vermont Dairy Festival," in honor of Harold Howrigan for his service to his community and the Vermont dairy industry.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise to discuss S. Res. 118, a resolution I submitted with Senator LEAHY to recognize the Enosburg Falls Vermont Dairy Festival in honor of Harold Howrigan.

Harold is a dairyman through and through.

He recently retired from the board of the St. Albans Co-op, a Vermont dairy cooperative, and he ably served as the board's president for 17 years.

Harold is a great guy—a real leader in Vermont's dairy industry—and I've known him and his family for many years.

Dairy farming is a tough job, and only those who really love it are successful.

Congratulations, Harold, and I wish you the best in retirement.

Enosburg Falls and the Lions Club of Enosburg host and sponsor the Vermont Dairy Festival.

This year, the festival celebrates its 49th year.

They say it is the largest parade in Vermont, and I believe it is the largest.

Enosburg Falls is a small town; I know, I used to spend a lot of time there.

In fact, my family settled in Enosburg in 1792.

My family owned the local pharmacy on Main Street, in downtown Enosburg, for many years.

But during the festival, thousands of Vermonters show up to enjoy the parade and participate in the events.

It is a wonderful time.